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## Activities

## Advanced version

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**'The Day the Earth Smiled' (Page 1)**

**Instructions:** Read the article "The Day the Earth Smiled".  
Answer questions 1-16.

1. What did the Cassini spacecraft do on 19th July?

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2. Why was this unusual?

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3. What is the approximate distance between the Earth and Saturn?

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4. Give a brief explanation of the Cassini-Huygens space project.

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5. After what or who was Saturn named?

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6. Name the planet that is closest to the Sun.

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7. What is 'Messenger'?

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8. When working out the time that the photograph was taken by Cassini what did NASA scientist have to allow for?

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**'The Day the Earth Smiled' (Page 1) *continued***

9. Name the largest planet in the Solar System? How many moons does it have?

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10. Describe Saturn's moons?

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11. Describe Saturn's rings?

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12. What is the 'Pale Blue Dot'?

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13. What made Cassini's photograph possible?

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14. Why do spacecraft travelling to the outer parts of the Solar System not usually look back towards the Earth?

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15. Why was Messenger's picture easier to take?

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16. What did the scientists in control of Cassini suggest people do on 19th July?

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**Detroit bankruptcy (Page 14)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Detroit bankruptcy'.

Tick either true or false for the following statements.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Cities or counties can borrow money by selling bonds.		
2. Detroit is the USA's largest ever municipal bankruptcy.		
3. The city of Detroit is in the state of Alabama.		
4. Detroit's population has increased since 1950.		
5. Detroit is often called 'Motor City'.		
6. The Ford Motor Company opened a factory in Detroit in 1910.		
7. When a company, in the USA, can no longer pay its debts it can apply for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.		
8. If a city or county, in the USA, cannot repay the money it has borrowed it can apply for Chapter 9 bankruptcy.		
9. As the factories closed many people moved to Detroit.		
10. The headquarters of General Motors (GM) is in Detroit.		

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**Royal Society awards (Page 13)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Royal Society awards'.

The answers to the questions are given for 1-10. Write the questions.

1. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. A type of carbon.

2. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. Bend without breaking.

3. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. For their scientific work.

4. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. Manchester University, in the UK.

5. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. For 'outstanding achievements in chemistry or engineering'.

6. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. In stacks, one on top of the other.

7. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. 1660.

8. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. It is very light, strong and a good conductor of heat and electricity.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Royal baby (Page 3)

**Instructions:** Read the article 'Royal baby'.

Draw a line to connect the correct links. The first is done for you.

Buckingham Palace

Australia

Duke and Duchess of Cambridge

Canada

Kevin Rudd

London

Gun salutes

Prince William

Commonwealth realm

William and Kate

Stephen Harper

Queen Elizabeth the Second

Prince George

Church bells

Prince Charles

New Zealand

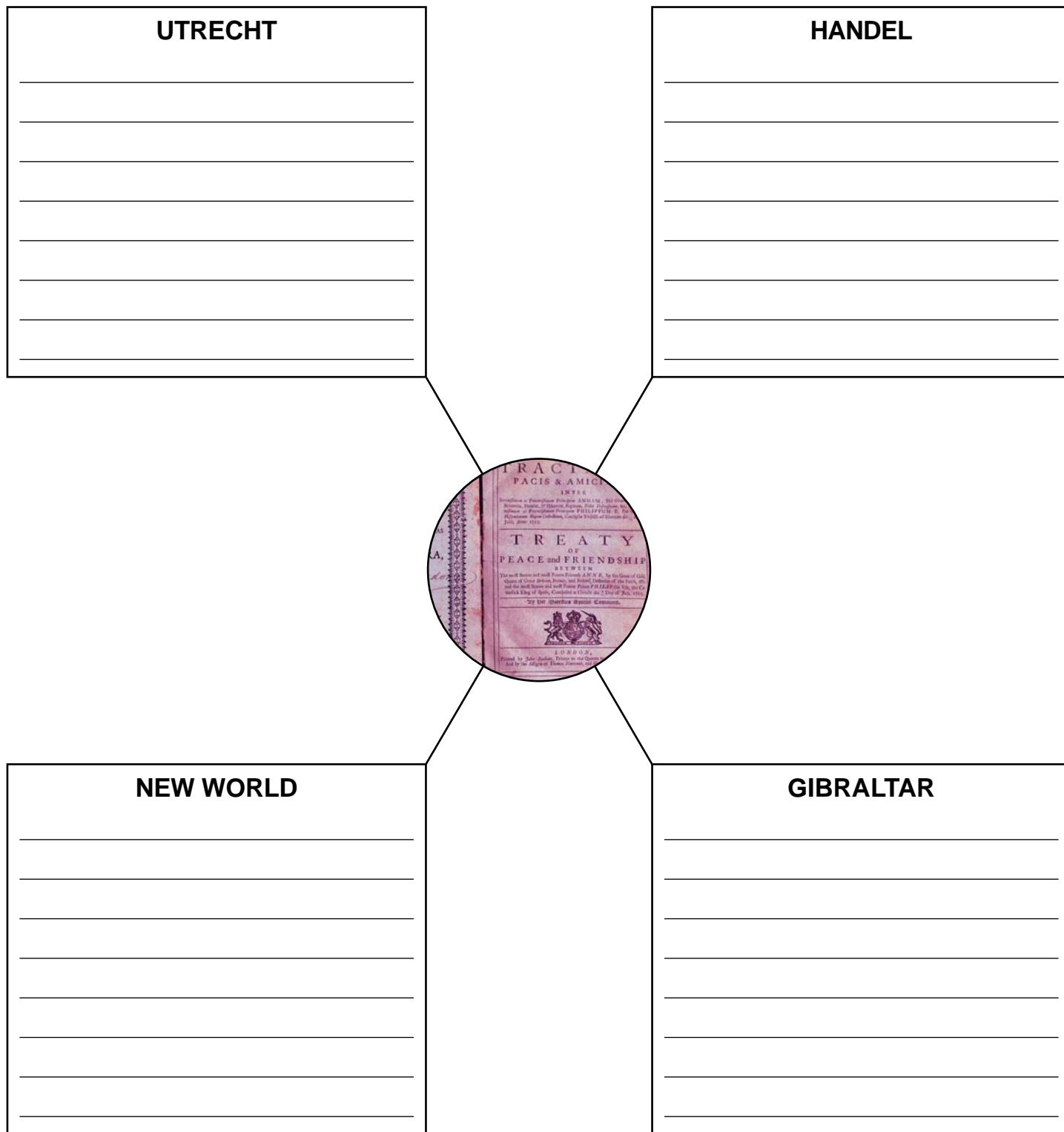
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Treaty of Utrecht anniversary (Page 7)

**Instructions:** Read the article 'Treaty of Utrecht anniversary' and fill in the spider diagram below with the details.



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**Peace talks to resume (Page 15)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Peace talks to resume'.

Answer questions 1-8.

1. Who is the USA's secretary of state? When did he take up this position?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is meant by the phrase 'shuttle diplomacy'?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What two areas make up the Palestinian Authority (PA)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What are the 'settlements'?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Where are the first talks expected to be held? What will happen next if they go well?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Who are the 'Jewish Lobby' in the USA?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. List some of the problems that need to be solved if peace talks are going to succeed?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. When were peace talks last held between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders? What happened?  
\_\_\_\_\_





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**Issue 202 Elimination**

**Instructions:** Read issue 202. Now eliminate from the list 13 pairs of words or phrases that go together. You will have one word or phrase left over. That is the answer. One pair is already done for you.

WYD                                      Wenchuan earthquake                                      Gibraltar

Pale Blue Dot                                      West Bank                                      Enrique Nieto

Snow leopards                                      Vertebrae                                      Tailbones

Gaza Strip                                      Helicopter                                      ~~Westminster Abbey~~

~~London~~                                      Constitutional monarchy                                      Operation Gomorrah

Mexico                                      UK                                      Chimpanzees

Central Asia                                      Sikorsky                                      Voyager 1

Hamburg                                      Brazil                                      1713

Graphene                                      Sichuan Province                                      Central Africa

**Odd one out =** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Issue 202 multiple choice quiz****Instructions:** Read issue 202 and circle the correct answers for questions 1-10.

1. **Of which country is the island of Sumatra a part?**
  - a. Malaysia
  - b. Singapore
  - c. Indonesia
  - d. Thailand
  - e. Taiwan
2. **Which planet in the Solar System is farthest from the Sun?**
  - a. Mars
  - b. Saturn
  - c. Jupiter
  - d. Mercury
  - e. Neptune
3. **In what South American city is Copacabana beach?**
  - a. Caracas
  - b. Buenos Aires
  - c. Santiago
  - d. Rio de Janeiro
  - e. Recife
4. **Who is third in line to the throne of the UK?**
  - a. Prince Michael
  - b. Prince Harry
  - c. Prince Charles
  - d. Prince William
  - e. Prince George
5. **Of which country is Peter O'Neill the prime minister?**
  - a. Papua new Guinea
  - b. Canada
  - c. New Zealand
  - d. Australia
  - e. The UK
6. **Who composed *Music for the Royal Fireworks*?**
  - a. Antonio Vivaldi
  - b. Ludwig van Beethoven
  - c. Johannes Brahms
  - d. George Frideric Handel
  - e. Richard Wagner
7. **By what name is bitumen also known?**
  - a. Concrete
  - b. Lime
  - c. Pitch
  - d. Paraffin
  - e. Larva
8. **Which American city has recently applied for 'Chapter 9' bankruptcy?**
  - a. New York
  - b. Detroit
  - c. Seattle
  - d. Atlanta
  - e. Denver
9. **With what is the name Sikorsky associated?**
  - a. Soap
  - b. Tobacco
  - c. A space telescope
  - d. Graphene
  - e. Helicopters
10. **Which of the following does the Panama Canal connect?**
  - a. Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean
  - b. Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea
  - c. Mediterranean Sea and Red Sea
  - d. Red Sea and Persian Gulf
  - e. Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean